

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel any remaining unallowed claims.

Please amend claims 1, 18, 34 and 38 to read as listed below. A complete marked-up listing of all pending claims is provided below.

1. (Presently amended) **Process** A process for preparing a composition of a vinylaromatic polymer matrix surrounding rubber nodules, comprising ~~the~~ a step of polymerizing at least one vinylaromatic monomer in the presence of a rubber, a stable free radical which is not introduced into the polymerization mixture in a form linked to a rubber, and a polymerization initiator with a grafting character suitable for said composition wherein said polymerization involves at least one phase inversion,

wherein said composition is such that in a cross-section of the polymer matrix surrounded rubber nodules at least 90% of the total area occupied by the nodules corresponds to capsules having a diameter ranging from 0.1 to 1.0  $\mu\text{m}$ , or else

wherein said composition is such that it comprises multi-occlusion nodules and is such that in one of its sections

20 to 60% of the total area occupied by the particles corresponds to particles having a diameter ranging from 0.1 to 1  $\mu\text{m}$ ,

5 to 20% of the total area occupied by the particles corresponds to particles having a diameter ranging from 1 to 1.6  $\mu\text{m}$ , and

20 to 75% of the total area occupied by the particles corresponds to particles having a diameter of greater than 1.6  $\mu\text{m}$ ,

said step being such that:

-if (SFR) represents the number of moles of stable free radical in the polymerization mixture,